

1318.3 - Qld Stats, Feb 2010

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What's new at ABS ...

WHAT'S NEW AT ABS ...

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**MICRODATA: SURVEY OF EDUCATION AND WORK, BASIC CURF,
AUSTRALIA, MAY 2009**

[Microdata: Survey of Education and Work, Basic CURF, Australia, May 2009 \(cat. no. 6227.0.30.001\)](#) was released on 28 January 2010.

This Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) from the 2009 Survey of Education and Work provides selected information on: participation in education; highest educational attainment; transition from education to work; and current labour force and demographic characteristics for the civilian population aged 15-64 years and persons aged 65-74 years, who are in the labour force or marginally attached to it. Characteristics reported include: type of educational institution attended or attending; level and main field of education of current study and highest level and main field of educational attainment. Information on unsuccessful enrolment and deferment of study is included for persons not studying in the survey year.



TECHNICAL MANUAL: SURVEY OF EDUCATION AND WORK, BASIC CURF, AUSTRALIA, MAY 2009

[Technical Manual: Survey of Education and Work, Basic CURF, Australia, May 2009](#) (cat. no. 6227.0.30.002) was released on 28 January 2010.

This publication provides information about the data available from the 2009 Survey of Education and Work in the form of a Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF). It explains data content, technical details and conditions of use.

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SCHOOLS, AUSTRALIA, PRELIMINARY, 2009

[Schools, Australia, Preliminary, 2009](#) (cat. no. 4220.0) was released on 28 January 2010.

This release contains a summary of state, territory and national data for the broad categories of schools, students and staff at the 2009 school census date of the 7th August. More detailed data, including derived participation and progression measures, will be published in [Schools, Australia](#) (cat. no. 4221.0), due for release in March 2010, or in the detailed data cubes and spreadsheets subsequently published on the ABS website.

Some data for Queensland:

- In 2009 there were 1,245 government schools comprising 929 primary, 178 secondary, 91 combined and 47 special schools. Catholic schools numbered 289 including: 196 primary, 61 secondary, 26 combined and 6 special schools. Independent schools totalled 176, of which 36 were primary, 11 secondary, 123 combined and 6 special schools.
- Staff numbers in Queensland schools in 2009 included 41,353 teaching staff and 25,706 other staff at government schools, and 17,703 teaching staff and 11,635 other staff in non-government schools.
- Student numbers in Queensland schools totalled 310,327 government primary students and 174,288 government secondary students in 2009. Catholic schools had 75,539 primary students and 52,631 secondary students, while independent schools had 52,665 primary and 52,538 secondary students.
- Indigenous students in Queensland schools included 26,685 Indigenous full-time primary students and 12,672 Indigenous full-time secondary students at government schools, and 3,212 Indigenous full-time primary students and 3,541 Indigenous full-time secondary students at non-government schools.
- Government schools had apparent retention rates of 72.8% for Year 7/8 to Year 12 and 72.4% for Year 10 to Year 12. All schools (government and non-government) had retention rates of 79.4% for Year 7/8 to Year 12 and 78.6% for Year 10 to Year 12.

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MICRODATA: LABOUR FORCE SURVEY AND FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT SURVEY, BASIC AND EXPANDED CURF, AUSTRALIA, NOV 2008

Microdata: Labour Force Survey and Forms of Employment Survey, Basic and Expanded CURF, Australia, Nov 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.30.007) was released on 28 January 2010.

This Basic and Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) provides information from both the monthly Labour Force Survey and the related Forms of Employment supplementary survey.

Detailed labour force and demographic characteristics for the civilian population aged 15 years and over are included. In addition, data is provided on independent contractors, other business operators and employees. Information is also provided on people who had found employment through a labour hire firm or employment agency.

This CURF is available on CD-ROM and via the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). The CD-ROM allows users to tabulate, manipulate and analyse data to their individual specifications. The RADL is accessible for authorised users via the ABS web site. It enables the ABS to provide more detailed microdata than that available on CD-ROM, while still maintaining the confidentiality of ABS data providers.

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LABOUR FORCE SURVEY AND FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT SURVEY, AUSTRALIA: BASIC AND EXPANDED CURF, TECHNICAL MANUAL, NOV 2008

Labour Force Survey and Forms of Employment Survey, Australia: Basic and Expanded CURF, Technical Manual, Nov 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.30.008) was released on 28 January 2010.

This manual provides information about the release of microdata from the November 2008 Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Forms of Employment (FOE) Survey. The microdata are available as a Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) and an Expanded CURF released with the approval of the Australian Statistician. The Basic CURF is available on CD-ROM, and via the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). The Expanded CURF is accessible only through the RADL. Expanded CURFs allow more detail to be presented for some data items, for example, age, industry, occupation, hours and number of employees. The RADL is a secure, on-line database query service, which clients may access via the ABS website. Users of the RADL can submit programs in SAS, SPSS and STATA software to interrogate and analyse the microdata, and access the results. Further information about the RADL facility and information about obtaining access to the file is available on the ABS website.

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VENTURE CAPITAL AND LATER STAGE PRIVATE EQUITY, AUSTRALIA, 2008-09

Venture Capital and Later Stage Private Equity, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 5678.0) was released on 11 February 2010.

Venture capital and later stage private equity is high risk capital directed towards businesses with prospects of rapid growth and/or high rates of returns. It is an investment not only of money, but also of skills and time. This publication presents information on both financial and non-financial contributions to venture capital and later stage private equity investments.

Some data for Queensland:

- In 2008-09, there were 145 investee companies with a head office in Queensland. These companies received \$1,059 million of venture capital and later stage private equity. This was down from 153 companies receiving \$1,123 million in 2007-08 but up from 43 companies receiving \$210 million in 1999-2000.
- New and follow-on investments of \$206 million in 60 investee companies with a head office in Queensland were made in 2008-09. This figure was down from the \$287 million worth of new and follow-on investments made in 61 investee companies in 2007-08, but up from the \$168 million invested in 61 companies in 2004-05.

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INFORMATION PAPER: REINSTATEMENT OF JOB VACANCIES SURVEY, NOV 2009

Information Paper: Reinstatement of Job Vacancies Survey, Nov 2009 (cat. no. 6354.0.55.001) was released on 4 February 2010.

This information paper describes changes to Job Vacancies statistics, as a result of the Job Vacancies Survey being suspended during 2008-09 and reinstated for the November 2009 survey. Statistics on job vacancies up until May 2008 were released in Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0). This title and catalogue number will continue to be used for future issues.

The first issue of 6354.0 following the reinstatement of the Job Vacancies Survey will be for the February 2010 reference period, which is scheduled for release on 1 April 2010. This issue will include the first release of data for the November 2009 reference period, which has been delayed due to additional work in re-establishing the survey.

As a result of the Job Vacancies Survey being suspended, there will be a gap in all series: original, seasonally adjusted and trend, for five quarters between August 2008 and August 2009 inclusive. The new survey incorporates changes to accommodate ANZSIC 2006 and some other changes to improve the survey framework. The sample size in the new survey has been reduced from around 5,200 businesses to around 5,000 businesses, but with no loss of survey accuracy.

For further information on the changes to be introduced or specific information on Job Vacancies please contact Zaneta Georgievski, on (08) 9360 5249.

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VALUE OF PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED, AUSTRALIA, PRELIMINARY, 2008-09

Value of Principal Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, Preliminary, 2008-09 (cat. no. 7501.0) was released on 9 February 2010.

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the gross values of production for principal agricultural commodities for all states, territories and Australia for 2008-09.

Some data for Queensland:

- The value of all crops for the year ended 30 June 2009 was \$4,692 million. The largest contribution to this total was other fruit and nuts (\$1,010 million) followed by sugar cane cut for crushing (\$916,000) and other vegetables (\$727,000).
- The value of livestock slaughterings and other disposals was \$3,975 million, the major portion (\$3,307 million) being for cattle and calves.
- The value of livestock products was \$471 million, with more than half (\$293 million) being the value of milk produced.

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AUSTRALIA'S ENVIRONMENT: ISSUES AND TRENDS, JAN 2010

Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends, Jan 2010 (cat. no. 4613.0) was released on 28 January 2010.

This publication presents a broad selection of environmental statistics and information which illustrate topical environmental issues. The subject matter will vary in each issue, as new environmental issues emerge or more current data sources become available. While ABS data forms a core component of the statistical information, data from other government agencies, international organisations, industry, and individual researchers is also included. Value is added to these widely sourced datasets by bringing them together and analysing their import for selected environmental issues.

Some data for Queensland:

- Use of agricultural water fell 21% between 2005-06 and 2007-08 from 2,581 GL to 2,039 GL.
- Queensland recorded the largest population increase of the states and territories between 2007 and 2008, growing by 98,000 people.
- The LGA with the highest growth in Australia was Brisbane, with 17,000 new residents, followed by the Gold Coast, with an increase of 13,000 people.
- Of the 5,772 petajoules of energy used nationally in 2007-08, Queensland was the third highest consumer of all states and territories, using 23% of the total.
- Queensland produced over 8 million tonnes of waste (18% of the 43.8 million tonnes produced nationally).
- In 2008, Queensland had the highest number of cattle (12.2 million).

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ABS FORMS DESIGN STANDARDS MANUAL, 2010

The ABS Forms Design Standards Manual, 2010 (cat. no. 1530.0) was released on 25 January 2010.

Aim of these standards

These standards are to be used in the design and preparation of self-administered collection forms (paper and electronic) and Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) interfaces. A good working knowledge of these standards should aid the development of forms that collect accurate data, ease the burden of respondents and ensure efficient processing.

Topics include:

- Mode suitability framework
- Paper form design standards
- Electronic forms
- Telephone and face to face interviews
- Survey letters.

While aspects of these standards will be of interest to those outside the ABS, they were developed for internal use. As such, some information contained in these standards will not be applicable to an external audience.

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EDUCATION NEWS, FEB 2010

Education News, Feb 2010 (cat. no. 1330.0) was released on 2 February 2010.

This newsletter highlights the latest curriculum related teaching resources, student activities and statistical tools that have been developed by ABS Education Services as well as other ABS resources that are useful for schools.

Topics covered in this issue include:

- CensusAtSchool News
- An Idea for the Classroom - Young Peoples' participation in sport
- Getting to school, getting to work
- Environmental Studies: Protecting the Great Barrier Reef

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HOW FIT IS YOUR DATA?

Over the past few years, a call has gone out for public policies to be informed by good

evidence. Statistical information is now answering that call. Statistical information has long been recognised as being good evidence, which places it at the heart of evidence-based policy. So, how do we get 'good statistical information'? One answer is DATAfitness. DATAfitness = good data management practice.

Good data management is one of the foundation stones for building a solid statistical resource for Australia. In simple terms, DATAfitness symbolises the ability to compare apples with apples or being able to compare data which has similar characteristics.

The National Statistical Service (NSS), a community of government agencies led by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, is promoting good data management practices through its DATAfitness program. DATAfitness encourages the use of statistical frameworks, principles and resources which can help data providers and users to realise the benefits of good data management.

The three key elements of DATAfitness are:

- **Metadata Management**, which describes what data is about and where it comes from. Adding metadata about data is essential for bringing data sets together and comparing information from different sources.
- **Data Quality**, which describes data's 'fitness for purpose'. Data has a range of dimensions which must be understood to determine whether or not data is 'fit for purpose' or, put simply, whether it can be used for the desired purpose.
- **Data Sharing**, which describes sharing information as an important part of maximising data use and re-use. Data sharing arrangements ease the sharing of data between providers and users and support evidence-based policy and decision-making.

As part of its DATAfitness program, the NSS is in the process of developing Data Quality Online (DQO), an easy-to-use online support system for data collectors, providers and users. DQO is the first assistant of its kind in the world and will provide clear and simple support to those involved in managing data. The system will help users to compile data quality statements and will also provide tailored guidance on statements for COAG indicators.

The NSS will officially launch DQO in May 2010, in conjunction with the ABS. DQO is based on the nationally recognised ABS Data Quality Framework, which provides a consistent standard for describing the quality of data. The NSS has also released A good practice guide to sharing your data with others. The guide supports quality data sharing across agencies by offering a non-technical introduction and by providing a basic model for making data sharing agreements, which includes factors to consider and how these relate to agencies, staff and data.

For more information on DATAfitness, visit www.nss.gov.au/datafitness or email inquiries@nss.gov.au .

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ABS FORWARD WORK PROGRAM, 2009-10 TO 2012-13

Forward Work Program, 2009-10 to 2012-13 (cat. no. 1006.0) was released 30 September 2009. The ABS Forward Work Program (FWP) is produced annually and is one of the suite of ABS corporate publications.

The FWP provides background information about statistical and non-statistical programs across the ABS, their objectives and the outputs they produce. It includes details of past and current resource usage, and developments in the work program for each of the statistical and non-statistical programs over the next three years. The FWP covers all programs in the ABS, across Central Office and all eight state and territory regional offices.

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ABS RELEASE INFORMATION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website provides the release details for all statistical products expected to be released in the coming six months.

The web page 'Release Advice for ABS Publications for the Next Six Months' is revised on the ABS website at the beginning of each month. This six-month forecasting is intended to keep clients informed about products and when they will become available.

All ABS core statistical and other statistical publications that usually have a catalogue number will be detailed as well as prominent non-statistical publications such as the ABS Annual Report and Australian Statistics Advisory Council Annual Report.

For further information please access the following link [Release Advice for ABS Publications for the Next Six Months](#).

Information on all ABS product releases can also be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases**, **Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months** and **Main Economic Indicator Releases**.

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QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

The [Queensland theme page](#) provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

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Population



POPULATION

[Population change, Queensland](#)

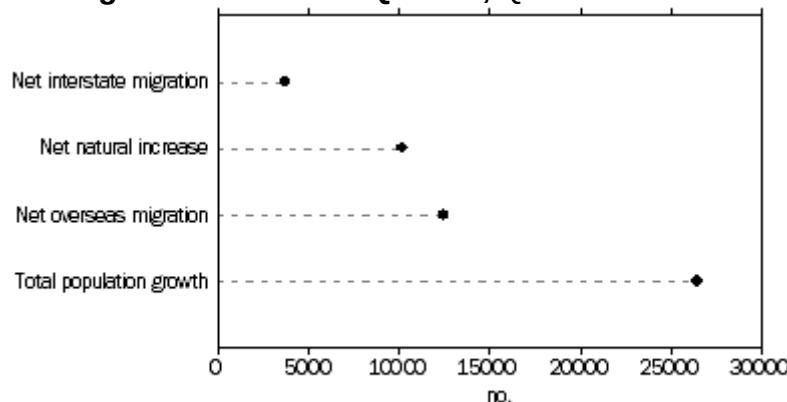
[Regional population growth, Queensland](#)

POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,406,800 at 30 June 2009, an increase of 112,900 (2.6%) since 30 June 2008. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 30 June 2009.

Between the March 2009 quarter and the June 2009 quarter, 47% (12,500 persons) of the total population increase of 26,400 persons was due to net overseas migration, 39% (10,200 persons) to natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and 14% (3,800 persons) was attributable to net interstate migration.

Population Change from Previous Quarter, Queensland - June 2009 quarter



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH, QUEENSLAND

At 30 June 2008, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,293,900 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton Statistical Divisions accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

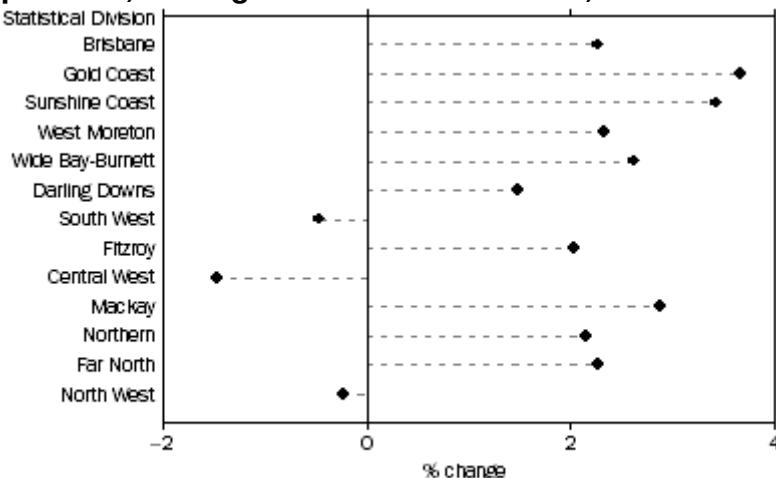
Regional Population(a), By Statistical Division - At 30 June - 2001, 2006, 2007 and 2008

	2001 '000	2006 '000	2007 '000	2008 '000
Statistical division				
Brisbane	1 663.1	1 857.8	1 902.2	1 945.6
Gold Coast	387.1	466.4	484.6	497.8
Sunshine Coast	247.2	295.1	304.1	312.8
West Moreton	77.2	86.4	88.6	90.7
Wide Bay-Burnett	232.0	264.1	271.3	278.0
Darling Downs	209.0	225.8	228.8	231.6
South West	27.0	26.4	26.2	26.2
Fitzroy	186.5	206.2	210.9	214.8
Central West	13.6	12.5	12.4	12.3
Mackay	137.5	159.8	163.6	167.7
Northern	190.3	209.9	215.4	220.7
Far North	224.2	247.3	254.3	262.1
North West	34.3	33.2	33.5	33.7
Queensland	3 628.9	4 090.9	4 196.0	4 293.9

(a) Estimates as at 30 June are final for 2001, preliminary rebased for 2006 on results of the Census of Population and Housing, 2006, revised for 2007 and preliminary for 2008. For all years, Statistical divisions are based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2008 Edition.
Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing statistical divisions over the seven years between 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2008 were Gold Coast, with an average annual growth rate of 3.7%, Sunshine Coast (3.4%) and Mackay (2.9%). Three statistical divisions recorded negative average annual growth during the same period: North West (-0.2%), South West (-0.5%) and Central West (-1.5%).

Regional Population, Average Annual Growth Rate, at 30 June - 2001 to 2008



Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia* (cat. no. 3218.0).

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

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Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

[Job vacancies](#)

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JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies increased to 41,600 in May

2008 from 38,600 in February 2008. The May 2008 vacancies were 17% higher than in May 2007. Public sector vacancies accounted for around one in ten (7.7%) of total job vacancies in May 2008.



Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This is the final issue for 2008. The Survey of Job Vacancies will not be conducted during 2008-09. The survey will be reinstated for the November 2009 reference period.

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EMPLOYED PERSONS

In January 2010, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose slightly (0.1%) to 2,236,900 persons, the sixth monthly rise following five consecutive monthly decreases. Full-time employed persons (1,589,300) accounted for 71% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 64% of full-time employed persons and 54% of total employed persons.

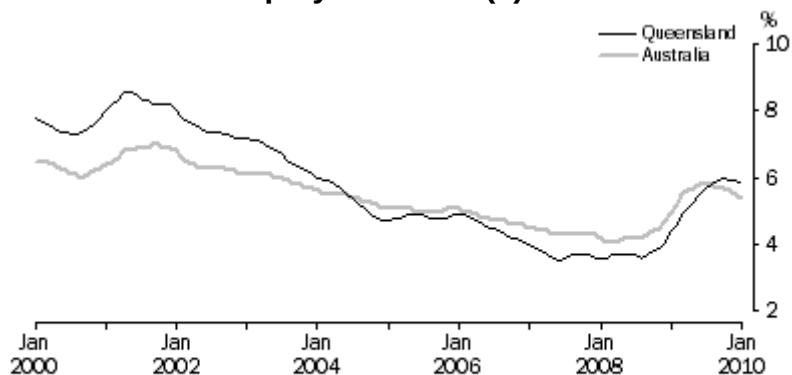


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UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland for January 2010 was 137,500 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 5.8%. In trend estimate terms, the Queensland unemployment rate has fallen or remained steady for the last three months following fourteen consecutive monthly increases and for the last five months has been higher than the national unemployment rate.

Unemployment Rate(a): Trend

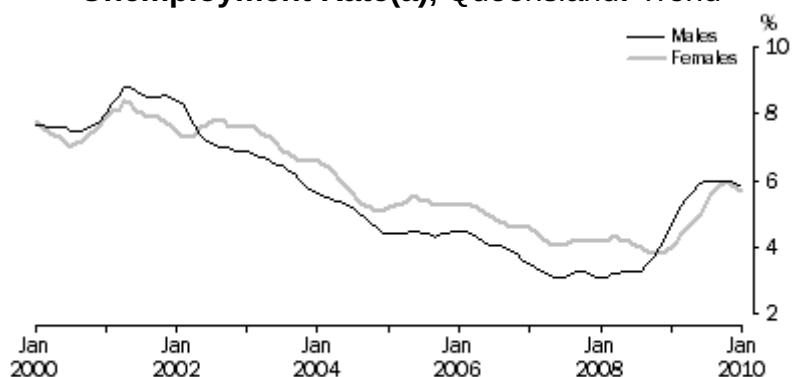


(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0).

In Queensland in January 2010, the male unemployment rate was 5.8% and the female unemployment rate was 5.7%. Since November 2008, female unemployment rates have been lower than or equal to male unemployment rates.

Unemployment Rate(a), Queensland: Trend



(a) Series break at April 2001.

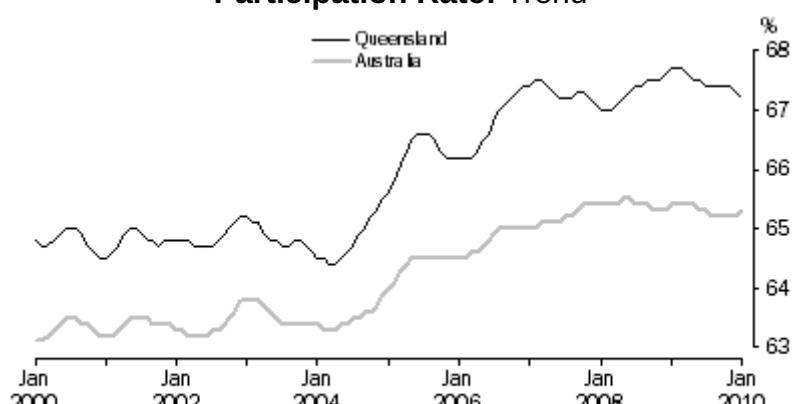
Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0).

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PARTICIPATION RATE

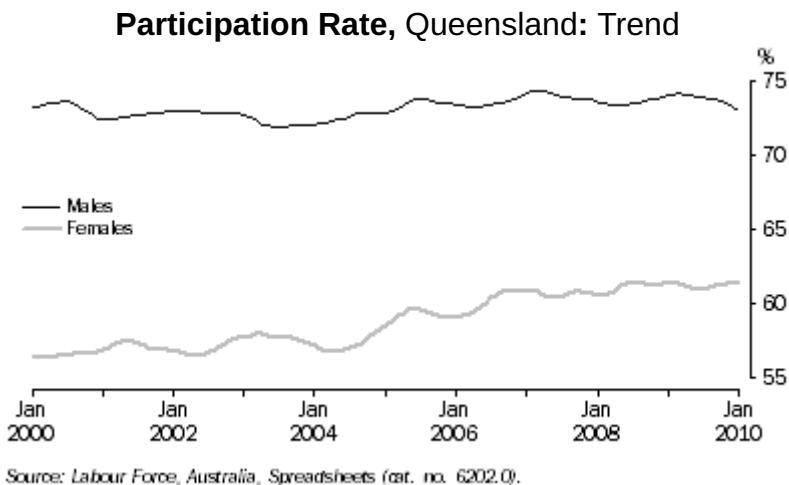
The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in January 2010 was 67.2%. This rate is 2.4 percentage points higher than in January 2000. Queensland has recorded equal to or higher participation rates than the national average since September 1988.

Participation Rate: Trend



Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been over 60% since June 2006 and recorded 61.4% in January 2010. This is a 4.9 percentage points increase over the female participation rate recorded in January 2000. The male participation rate in January 2010 was 73.1% which was 0.2 percentage points lower than the rate recorded for January 2010.



Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

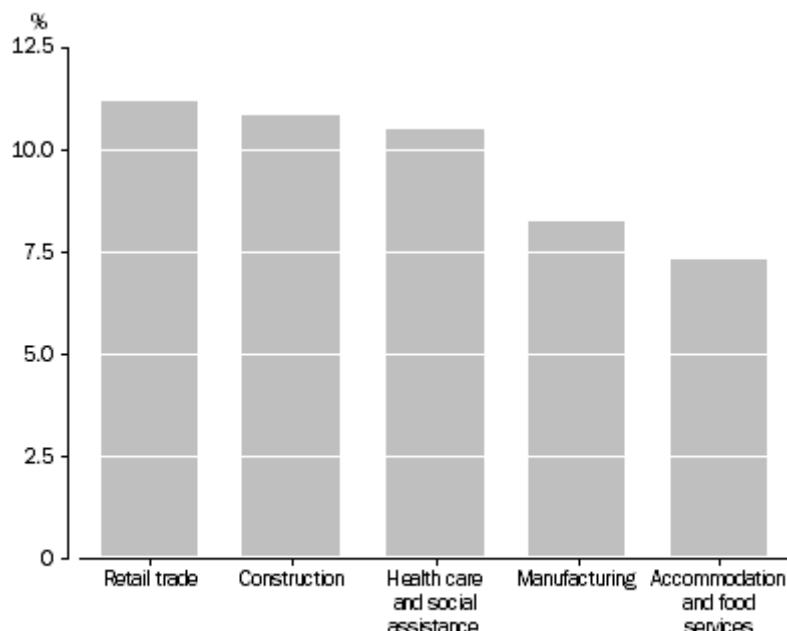
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,217,500 employed persons in Queensland in November 2009. The five industries with the highest numbers of employed persons were Retail trade (247,000); Construction (239,600); Health care and social assistance (231,700); Manufacturing (183,000) and Accommodation and food services (162,000). Those industries employing the lowest numbers of persons included Electricity, gas, water and waste services (27,600); Information, media and telecommunications (30,100); and Arts and recreation services (37,500).

The five industries with the highest numbers of employed persons accounted for almost one half (48%) of Queensland's employed persons.

Employed Persons by Industry, Percentage of total employed - Queensland: Original - November 2009



Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year November 2008 to November 2009, the greatest proportional increase of employed persons occurred in the Wholesale trade industry (26%). In the same period, Information media and telecommunications had the greatest proportional decrease in employed persons with a reduction of 17%.

Note: Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared with the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Prices



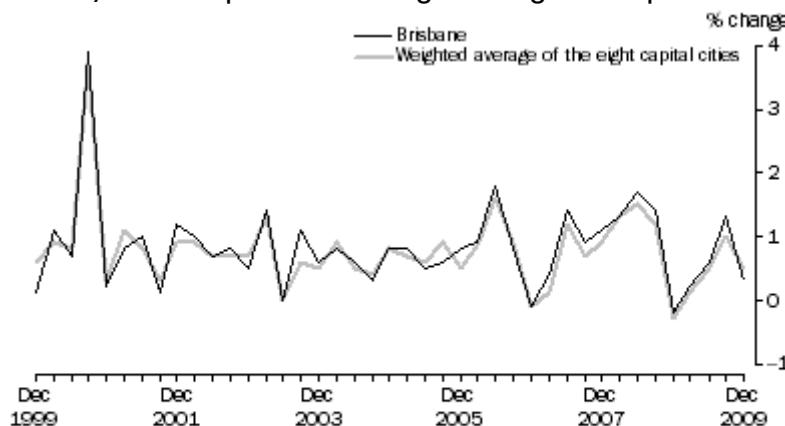
PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 2.5% in the 12 months to December quarter 2009 compared with a 2.1% increase in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Darwin recorded the highest increase of any capital city (3.0%). Hobart recorded the second highest rise (2.6%) and Brisbane recorded the third highest rise (2.5%).

Between the September quarter 2009 and the December quarter 2009 the Brisbane CPI increased by 0.3% compared with an increase of 0.5% for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Consumer Price Index, All Groups - Percentage change from previous quarter(a): Original



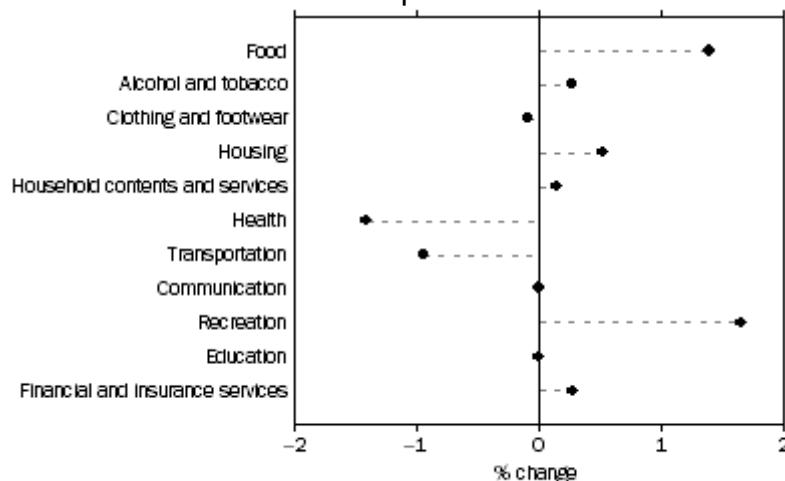
(a) The 2000-01 data were affected by the introduction of The New Tax System, in particular, the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from 1 July 2000.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

In the December 2009 quarter, the majority of Brisbane price categories groups increased compared with the previous quarter. The largest increases were Recreation (1.6%) and Food (1.4%).

Over the same period, decreases were recorded for Health (-1.4%), Transportation (-0.9%) and Clothing and footwear (-0.1%).

CPI Movement, Brisbane, Percentage change from previous quarter: Original - September 2009 quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Production



PRODUCTION

[Building approvals](#)

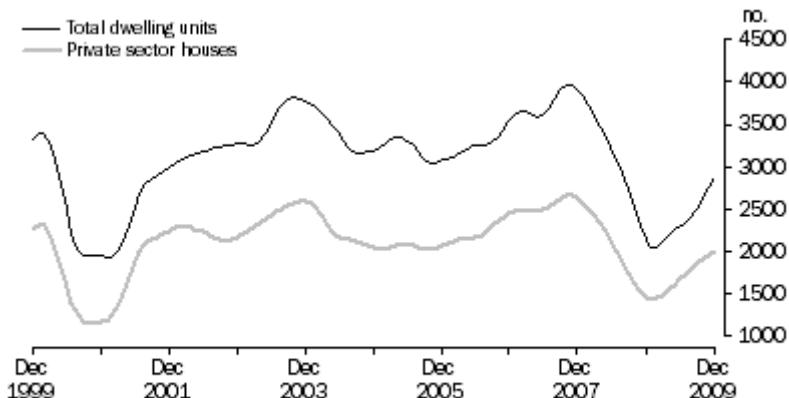
[Building activity](#)

[Engineering construction](#)

BUILDING APPROVALS

In December 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 2,879. This was an increase of 4.5% from the previous month, the eleventh monthly increase following fifteen consecutive monthly falls. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 2,009 approvals which represents 70% of total dwelling units approved.

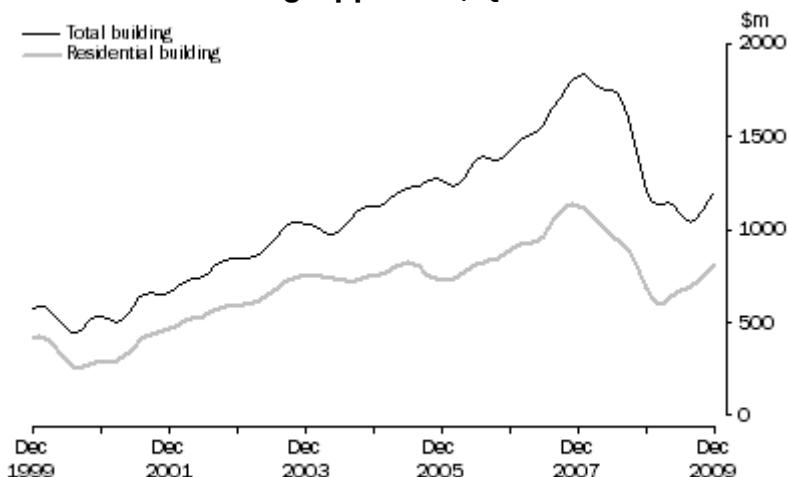
Dwelling Units Approved, Queensland: Trend



Source: *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0).

In December 2009, the total value of building approvals in trend terms was \$1,200 million, a 3.9% increase from the previous month and a 1.0% decrease from December 2008. Residential buildings accounted for 67% of the total value of buildings.

Value of Building Approved, Queensland: Trend



Source: *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0).

For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This

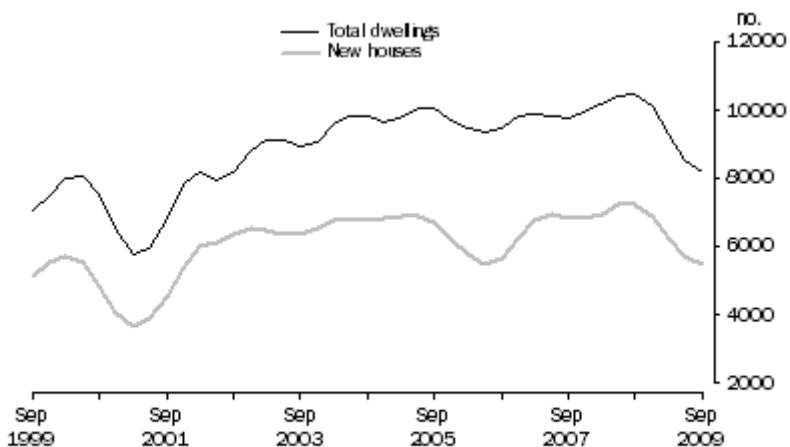
publication is released monthly.

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BUILDING ACTIVITY

In the September 2009 quarter, the total number of dwelling units completed in trend terms in Queensland was 8,150. This was a decrease of 4.5% from the June 2009 quarter. There were 5,468 new houses completed during the September 2009 quarter which represents 67% of the total number of dwelling units completed.

Dwellings Completed(a), Queensland: Trend

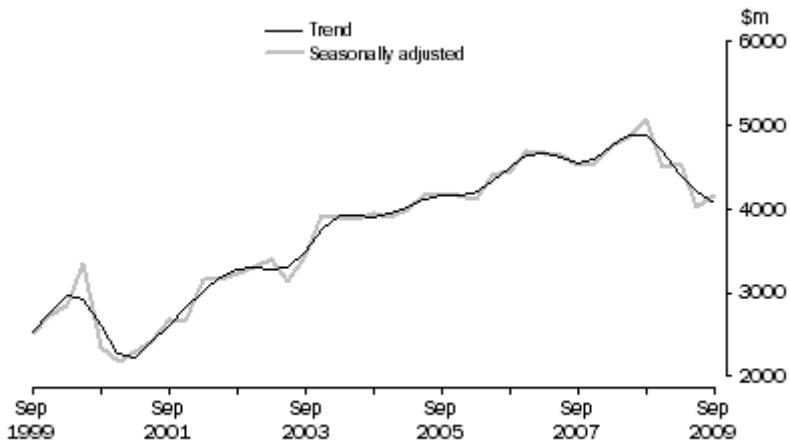


(a) Includes alterations, additions and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0).

In the September 2009 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$4,081 million. This was a decrease of 16% from the September 2008 quarter.

Value of Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0).

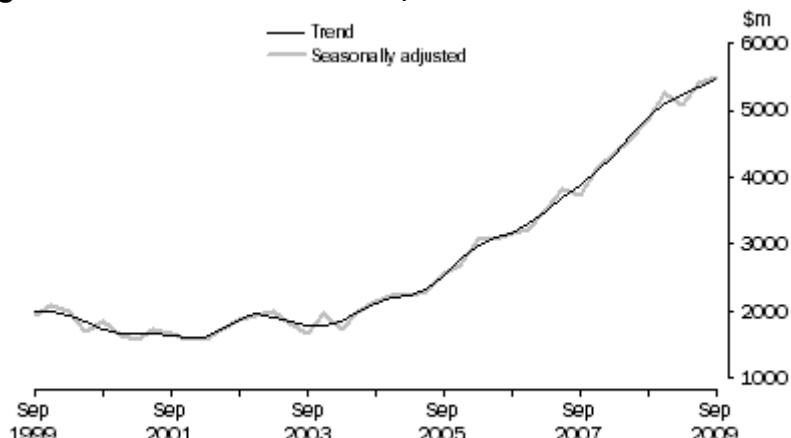
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the June 2009 and September 2009 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 2.0% to \$5,465 million. This continues the period of strong growth since September 2003 quarter.

Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



Source: *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8762.0).

For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Housing Finance

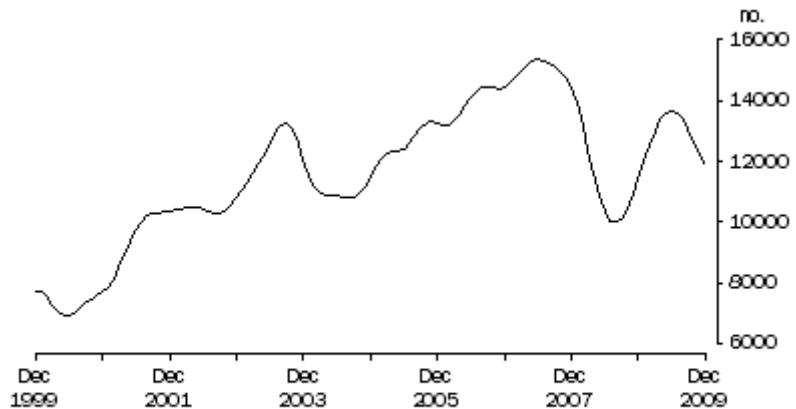


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

In Queensland, the number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms decreased to 11,848 (down 3.1%) from November 2009 to December 2009, the sixth monthly decrease after ten consecutive monthly increases.

Housing Finance Commitments, (Owner Occupation)(a), Queensland: Trend



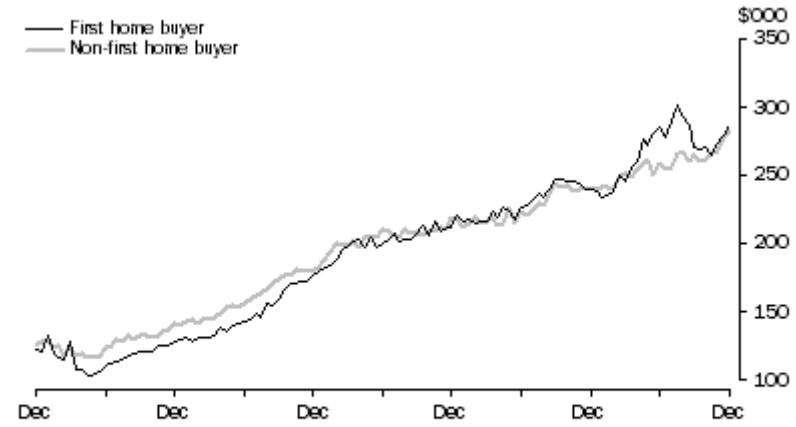
(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland decreased by 2.1% to \$3,263 million from November 2009 to December 2009. Over the year to December 2009, in trend estimate terms, the value of housing finance commitments showed an increase of 8.7%.

Since December 1999, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$124,400 to \$282,700.

In December 2009, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$286,400) increased 2.8% from the previous month. The December 2009 average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$281,900) increased 1.3% from the previous month.

Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Queensland: Original



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

Further information on this topic is available in *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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Incomes



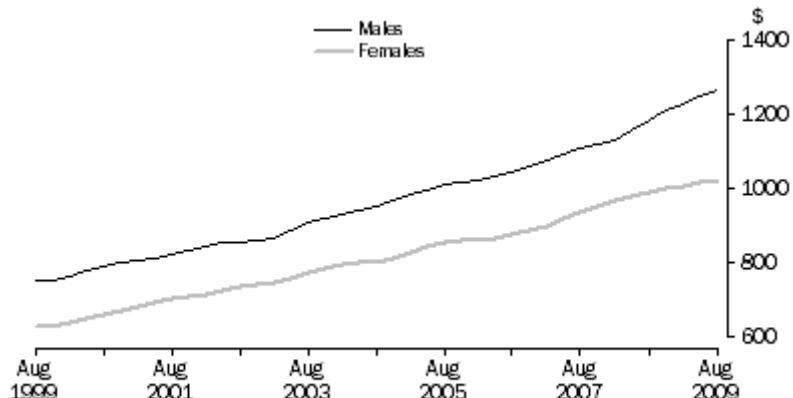
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 5.6% to \$1,177.00 in the 12 months to August 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.4% (up to \$1,201.90).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 6.6% for males and 3.1% for females over the 12 months to August 2009. The August 2009 female estimate of \$1,024.50 was 81% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1,263.80.

Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time, Queensland: Trend



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Consumption and Investment



CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

[Retail trade](#)

[New motor vehicle sales](#)

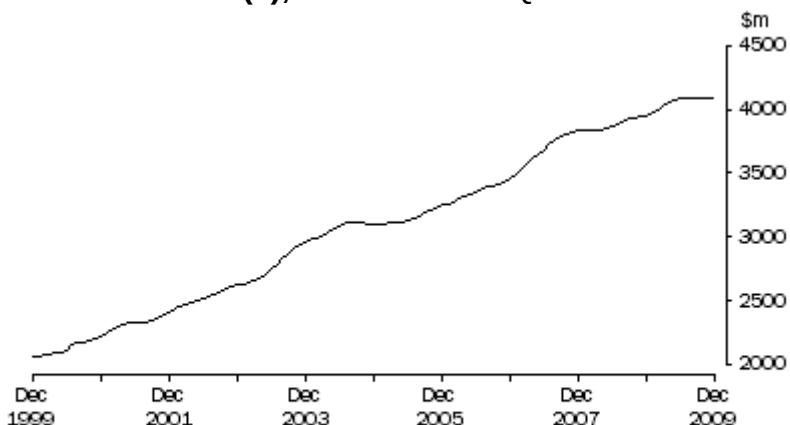
[Private new capital expenditure](#)

RETAIL TRADE

The December 2009 trend estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$4,094 million, an

increase of less than 0.1% from November 2009. Food retailing accounted for the greatest proportion of retail turnover in December 2009, at 41%, followed by Household goods retailing, at 18%. Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services accounted for 12% of total retail turnover.

Retail Turnover(a), All Industries - Queensland: Trend



(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: *Retail Trade, Australia* (cat. no. 8501.0).

Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Following the Federal Government Budget in May 2009, the eligibility period for the Small Business and General Business Tax Break was extended to December 2009. The rebate level was also increased for small businesses, allowing eligible businesses to claim an increased tax deduction on the purchase of new motor vehicles.

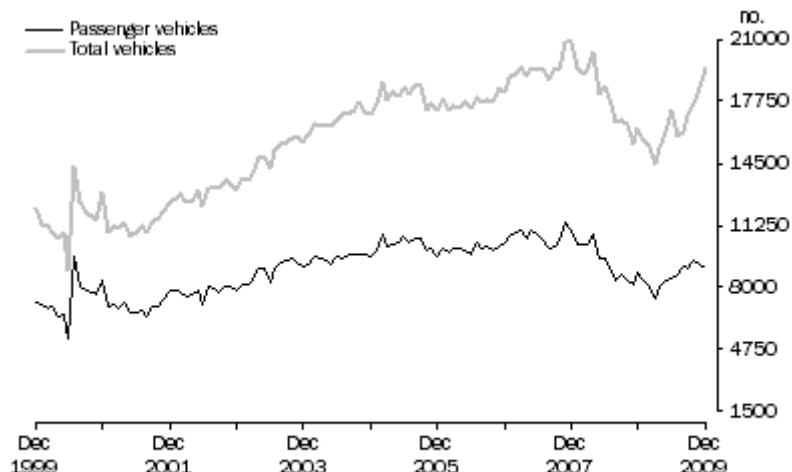
The trend series attempts to measure the underlying behaviour in new motor vehicle sales. In the short term, this measurement may be significantly affected by unusual influences in the original and seasonally adjusted data, like those observed in May and June 2009. If the trend estimates in the publication were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in new motor vehicle sales activity.

The new motor vehicle sales trend series has therefore been suspended from May 2009. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying behaviour of new car sales.

In seasonally adjusted terms, 8,980 new passenger vehicles and 19,503 new vehicles in total were sold in Queensland in December 2009. Corresponding sales for Australia were 46,770 and 89,741. When comparing December 2009 with November 2009, Queensland recorded a decrease of 2.4% in passenger vehicle sales. Total new vehicle sales increased by 5.5% over the same period.

In December 1999, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 60% of total new vehicle sales in Queensland. By December 2009, the proportion for new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 46%.

New Motor Vehicle Sales, Queensland: Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0).

Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9314.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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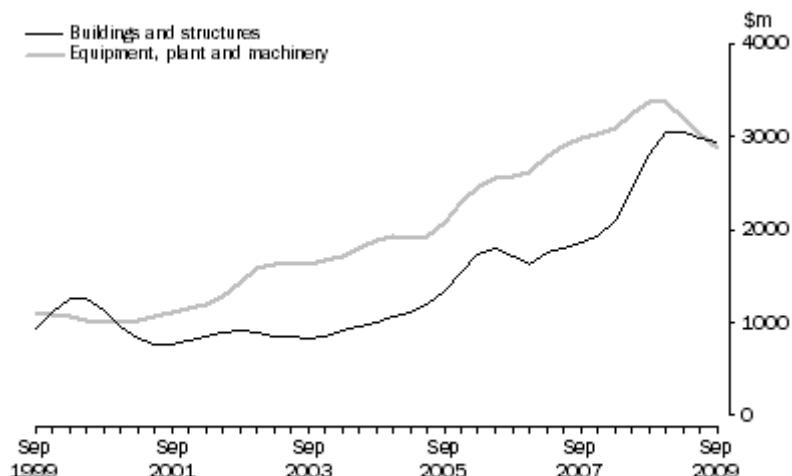
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the June 2009 and the September 2009 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 3.1% to \$5,820 million.

During the same period, expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 4.6% to \$2,886 million while expenditure on Buildings and structures decreased by 1.1% to \$2,944 million.

Comparing the September 2009 quarter with the September 2008 quarter, Queensland's total private new capital expenditure decreased by 5.9%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 14% and expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 5.0%.

Private New Capital Expenditure, Chain Volume Measures by quarter - Queensland: Trend



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0).

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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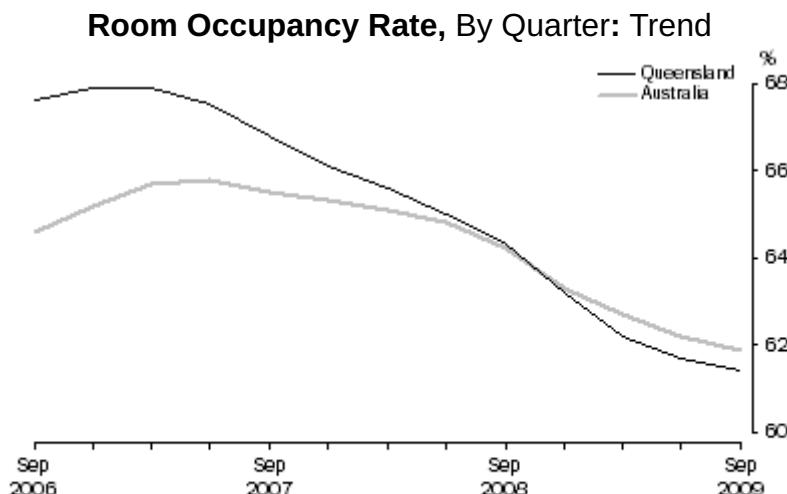
Tourist Accommodation



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the September 2009 quarter, there were 1,143 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 61,612 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland was 61.4%, slightly lower than the national average (61.9%).



Source: [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0), [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001).

In the September 2009 quarter, Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.8 million guest arrivals. Queensland establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days) of all states and territories. The national average was 2.3 days.

The trend estimate of Queensland total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 rooms was \$498 million in the September 2009 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) and [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication and data cube are released quarterly.

Interstate Trade

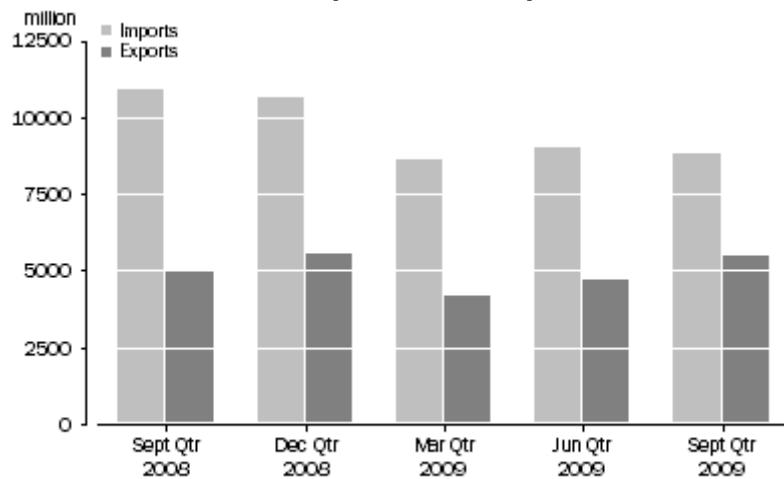


INTERSTATE TRADE

QUEENSLAND'S INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the September quarter 2009 was \$8,825 million, a 2% decrease from the previous quarter. The value of interstate exports in the September quarter 2009 was \$5,490 million, a 16% increase from the previous quarter.

Value of Interstate Imports and Exports, Queensland



Source: *Interstate Trade, Queensland* (cat. no. 8502.3)

Note: Interstate trade data are released quarterly. This is the sixth quarter for which the Queensland interstate trade estimates have been produced using sample survey methodology. As the new methodology differs significantly from that of the old survey, the results should be considered a break in series.

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Interstate Trade, Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8502.3) or by contacting Queensland Interstate Trade on 1800 654 467. This publication is released quarterly.

State Accounts

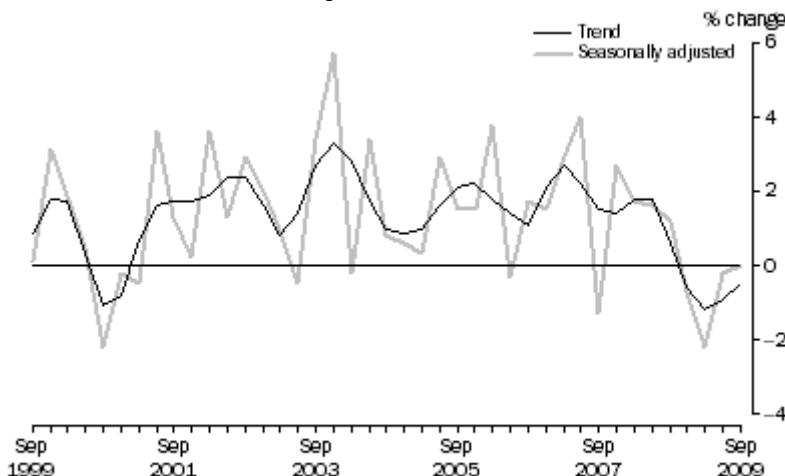


STATE ACCOUNTS

Queensland's September quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms

was \$604,237 million, a \$290 million (0.5%) decrease from the June quarter 2009. Australia's Domestic Final Demand increased 0.4% over the same period, to \$308,138 million.

State Final Demand, Chain Volume Measures - Percentage change from previous quarter: Queensland



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0).

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product](#) (cat. no. 5206.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Articles

ARTICLES

ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

Deaths, Queensland, 2008

Data for this article was taken from Deaths, Australia, 2008, which presents statistics on deaths and mortality for Australia, states and territories, and sub-state regions. Information on characteristics of the deceased include place of usual residence, age at death, sex, Indigenous status and country of birth. Information is also provided on infant deaths, life expectancy and death rates.

Index of previous articles

This provides a list of articles that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

Index of Articles

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2010	
February	Deaths, Queensland, 2008
January	Births, Queensland, 2008
2009	
December	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008
October	Marriages and Divorces, Queensland, 2008
September	Water Use on Queensland Farms, 2007-08
August	Environmental Issues and Behaviour, Queensland, 2007-08
July	Recorded Crime - Victims, Queensland, 2008
June	Land Management and Farming in Queensland, 2007-08
May	Causes of Death, Queensland, 2007
April	Criminal Courts in Queensland, 2007-08
February	150 Years of Queensland's Economic History: Key Dates, Facts and Figures
January	Deaths, Queensland, 2007
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June	Forms of Employment, Queensland - November 2007
	Labour Force Characteristics of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2007
	Household Preparedness for Emergencies Queensland - October 2007
May	Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Queensland, April 2007
April	General Social Survey, 2006: Financial Stressors, Queensland
2007	
December	General Social Survey, 2006: Personal Stressors, Queensland
November	Census Data - Second Release
September	Young People in the Labour Market, Queensland, 2007
	General Social Survey, 2006: Characteristics of Family and Community Support & Crime and Safety
July	Forms of Employment, Queensland, November 2006
	Working Time Arrangements, Queensland, November 2006
June	Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006
May	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Queensland, 2004-05
	Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005

About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by using the links to source materials contained on each page.

Deaths, Queensland, 2008 (Feature Article)



DEATHS, QUEENSLAND, 2008

Introduction

Male and female deaths

Age-specific death rates

Median age at death

Infant deaths

Life expectancy at birth

Deaths of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Regional data

End notes

Bibliography

Further Information

INTRODUCTION

This article brings together statistics on deaths and mortality in Queensland. Unless otherwise stated, data refer to deaths registered during the calendar year shown for usual residents of Queensland.

In 2008, there were 27,335 deaths of usual residents of Queensland, an increase of 5.9% compared with the number in 2007. Since 1973, the number of deaths has increased by 65%.

The steady increase in the number of deaths over time reflects the increasing size of the population and, in particular, the increasing number of older people. With the continued ageing of the population the number of deaths is projected to continue to increase throughout the remainder of the century (Series B, Population Projections, Australia, 2006 to 2101, cat. no. 3222.0).

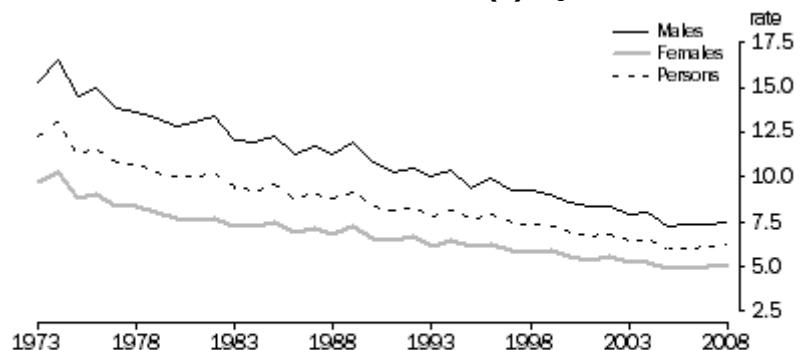
Declining death rates

Despite the ageing of the population over the last 35 years, death rates have continued to decline. The crude death rate¹ declined from 8.5 deaths per 1,000 population in 1973 to 5.9 deaths per 1,000 population in 2005 and has risen slightly since then to 6.4 deaths per 1,000 population in 2008. Given the ageing of Queensland's population, the overall decline

in the crude death rate indicates a considerable decline in age-specific death rates² over the period.

The standardised death rate³ (SDR), which eliminates the effect of changes in the age structure of a population over time, was 6.2 deaths per 1,000 standard population in 2008. This was slightly higher than the three previous years (6.1 deaths per 1,000 standard population in 2007 and 6.0 in 2006 and 2005) but half the rate in 1973 (12.2). The rates for 2005 and 2006 are the lowest on record.

Standardised Death Rates(a), Queensland



(a) Deaths per 1,000 standard population. Standardised death rates are calculated using the 2001 population of Australia as the standard population.

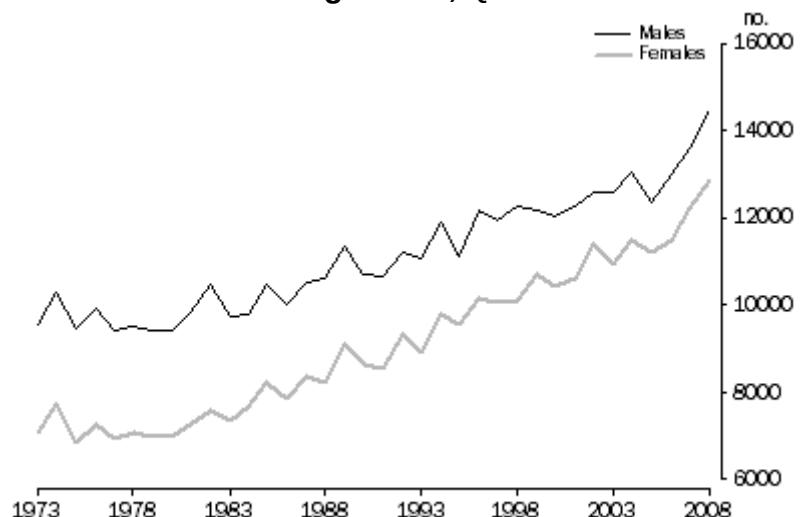
Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (3105.0.65.001); Deaths, Australia (3302.0)

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MALE AND FEMALE DEATHS

Male deaths (14,462) registered in 2008 outnumbered female deaths (12,873), resulting in a sex ratio of 112.3 male deaths for every 100 female deaths. This ratio has decreased from 134.9 male deaths for every 100 female deaths in 1973. Since 1973, the numbers of male deaths have increased by 52% while female deaths have increased by 82%.

Deaths Registered, Queensland



Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (3105.0.65.001); Deaths, Australia (3302.0)

Although male mortality remains higher than female mortality, in the last 35 years the gap has narrowed. In 1973, males had an SDR of 15.3 deaths per 1,000 standard population, 5.6 deaths higher than the female SDR of 9.7 deaths per 1,000 standard population. In 2008, the male SDR had decreased to 7.5 deaths per 1,000 standard population, 2.4 deaths

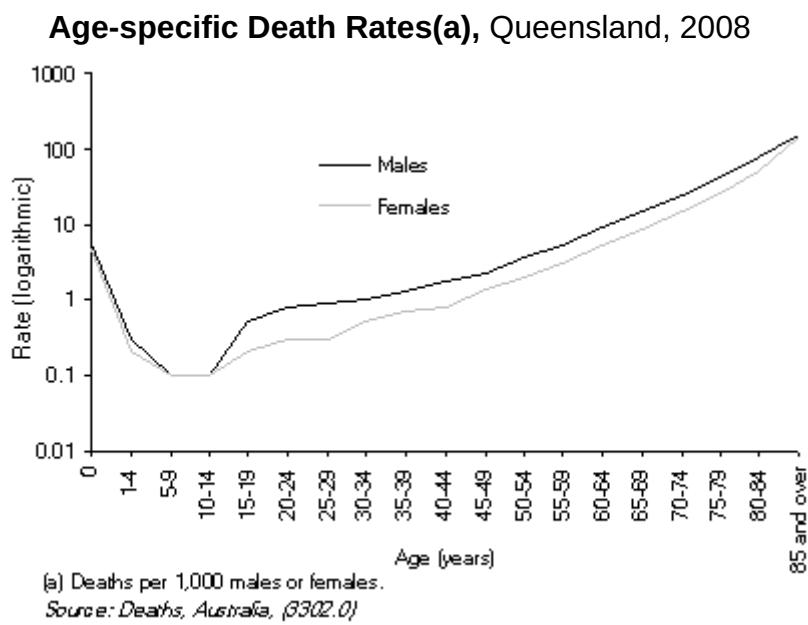
higher than the female rate of 5.1 deaths per 1,000 standard population.

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AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES

From relatively high rates of death in infancy, death rates decline sharply through childhood. In 2008, the lowest age-specific death rates (ASDRs) in Queensland were experienced by males and females aged 5-9 years and 10-14 years. ASDRs begin to increase from around 15 years of age for both males and females. For all age groups except 5-9 years and 10-14 years, ASDRs were higher for males with differences between males and females becoming more prominent from 65 years of age. The largest difference between male and female ASDRs occurred in the 80-84 years age group. For this age group, males experienced an ASDR of 77.4 deaths per 1,000 male population compared with females who had a rate of 49.6 deaths per 1,000 female population.

For 2008, the ASDR for males aged 15-19 years was 150% greater than that of females of the same age group (0.5 and 0.2 per 1,000 population respectively). Male ASDRs increased gradually until around age 40-44 years, when they began to increase more quickly throughout the older age groups. Age-specific death rates for females aged 15 to 44 years were low and relatively constant. Increases in the female ASDRs are evident from 45-49 years of age and continued throughout the remaining age groups.



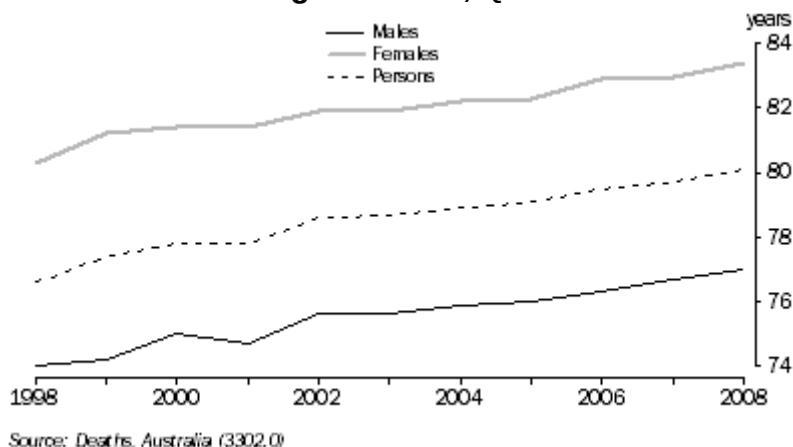
Over the last 10 years the overall trend in death rates for both males and females for all age groups has been downwards. The largest proportional decrease between 1998 and 2008 in male age-specific death rates occurred in the 5-9 years and 10-14 years age group (both down 50%) followed by the 30-34 years age group (down 38%) and 20-24 years age group (down 33%). For females, the 15-19 years age group experienced the largest proportional decrease (down 60%), followed by females aged 10-14 years (down 50%) and females aged 1-4 years (down 33%).

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MEDIAN AGE AT DEATH

For deaths registered in 2008, the median age at death for usual residents of Queensland was 80.1 years. Females recorded a higher median age at death (83.4 years) than their male counterparts (77.0 years).

Median Age at Death, Queensland



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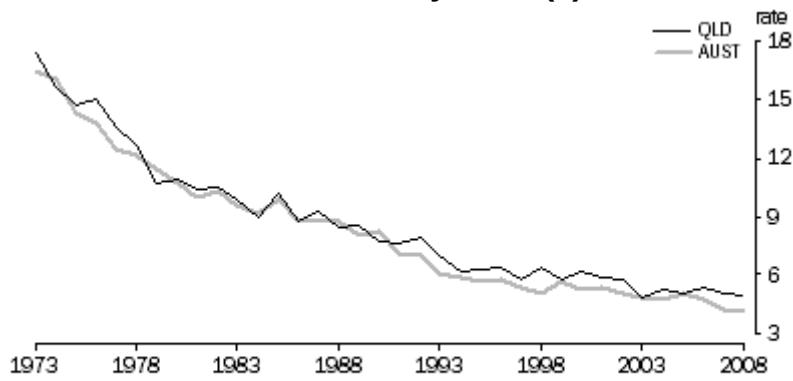
INFANT DEATHS

There were 308 infant deaths (deaths of children less than one year of age) of usual residents of Queensland registered in 2008. Males accounted for 56% of infant deaths resulting in a sex ratio of 129.9 male infant deaths for every 100 female infant deaths.

In the 35 years to 2008, Queensland's infant mortality rate (IMR) has declined significantly. In 1973, around one in 57 infants did not survive to their first birthday (an IMR of 17.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births). By 2007, one in 204 Queensland infants did not survive their first year of life (an IMR of 4.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births). This decline may be a consequence of the introduction of universal health insurance (Medicare) and improvements in medical technology, such as neonatal intensive care units (Taylor et al. 1998).

Since 1991, Queensland's IMR has been higher than or equal to the national average. In 2008, Queensland's IMR (4.9) was the second highest after the Northern Territory (6.1).

Infant Mortality Rates(a)



(a) Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (3105.0.65.001); Deaths, Australia (3302.0)

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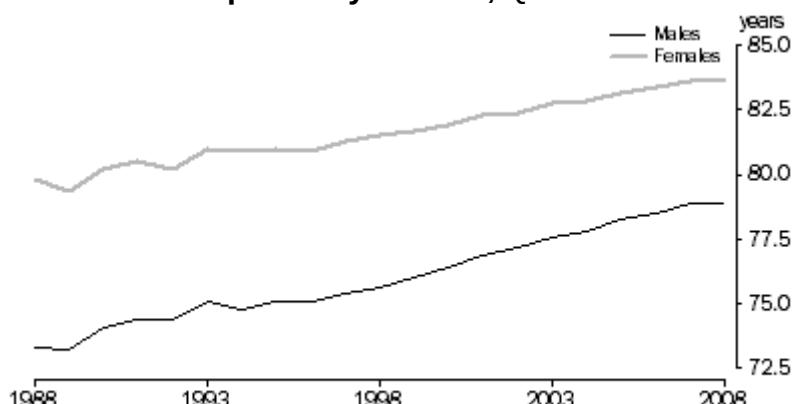
LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

Life expectancy at birth is one of the most widely used indicators of population health. It focuses on length of life rather than its quality, but provides a useful summary of the health of the population.

In 2006-2008, life expectancy at birth was 78.9 years for Queensland males and 83.7 years for Queensland females. Women tend to live longer than men, however in recent years life

expectancy at birth has increased more quickly for males than for females. Since 1988, male life expectancy at birth has increased by 5.6 years compared to an increase of 3.9 years for females. The increase in life expectancy at birth reflects declining death rates at all ages.

Life Expectancy at Birth, Queensland



Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (3105.0.65.001); Deaths, Australia (3302.0)

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DEATHS OF QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS

In 2008, there were 562 registered deaths of usual residents of Queensland where the deceased person was identified as being of Aboriginal origin, Torres Strait Islander origin or both.

A variety of measures of mortality (age-specific death rates, median age at death, infant mortality rates and life expectancy at birth) indicate that the mortality level of Indigenous Australians is substantially higher than that of the total Australian population.

The exact scale of difference between Indigenous and total population mortality is difficult to establish conclusively, due to quality issues with Indigenous deaths data and the uncertainties inherent with estimating and projecting the size and structure of the Indigenous population over time. Caution should be exercised when undertaking analysis of Indigenous mortality and, in particular, trends in Indigenous mortality.

Some of the issues affecting the reporting of Indigenous mortality include under-identification of Indigenous deaths, unexplained changes in the number of people identified as Indigenous in different data collections and, over time, the use of a standard Indigenous status question, and not stated Indigenous status.

It is considered likely that most deaths of Indigenous Australians are registered. However, some of these deaths are not identified as Indigenous when they are registered. This may arise from the failure to report a person's Indigenous status on the death registration form or from an incorrect identification of their Indigenous status (that is, recording non-Indigenous instead of Indigenous) on the death certificate. Such mis-identification may occur because some Indigenous people may have non-Indigenous ancestries which may create uncertainty for those completing the death registration form as to how a deceased person should be identified.

As part of the 2006 Census Data Enhancement (CDE) project, the Indigenous Mortality Quality Study was conducted to estimate the extent of under-identification of Indigenous deaths in death registrations. The study involved linking death registrations (for 9 August 2006 to 30 June 2007) to 2006 Census of Population and Housing records, and comparing

Indigenous status as recorded in the two collections. Identification rates obtained from the study were then used in the construction of experimental life tables of the Indigenous population of Australia for 2005–2007.

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Age at death

Deaths of non-Indigenous persons are concentrated in the older age groups whereas deaths of Indigenous persons are more widely spread across younger age groups. For Queensland Indigenous persons, 63% of deaths occur before age 65 years compared to around one in five (21%) of non-Indigenous Queenslanders.

AGE AT DEATH, Indigenous Status, Queensland, 2008

	0	1 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 years and over	Total(a)
Indigenous									
Number of deaths	36	11	28	37	60	76	106	208	562
% of total deaths	6.4	2.0	5.0	6.6	10.7	13.5	18.9	37.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous									
Number of deaths	259	102	239	352	610	1,260	2,562	20,876	26,260
% of total deaths	1.0	0.4	0.9	1.3	2.3	4.8	9.8	79.5	100.0

(a) Includes deaths for which age of death was not stated.

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Median age at death

Median age at death is influenced to some extent by the age structure of a population, which itself has been influenced by the ages at which deaths occur. The Indigenous population is younger than the non-Indigenous population and this is reflected in the median age at death of the two populations (Baade & Coory, 2003).

In 2008, the median age at death for Indigenous males was 53.2 years while the median age at death for Indigenous females was 62.3 years. In contrast, the median ages at death for non-Indigenous males and females were considerably higher at 77.3 and 83.7 years, respectively.

Median Age at Death, Indigenous Status(a), Queensland

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Males						
Indigenous	51.2	53.7	51.1	55.6	54.7	53.2
Non-Indigenous	75.9	76.2	76.4	76.7	77.1	77.3
Females						
Indigenous	62.1	57.9	59.5	57.0	59.5	62.3
Non-Indigenous	82.2	82.5	82.6	83.1	83.3	83.7

(a) Care should be exercised when comparing median age at death of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Queenslanders.

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Infant mortality rate

For the period 2006 - 2008, the Indigenous infant mortality rate was 7.9 infants per 1,000

live births. Infant mortality rates for Indigenous Queenslanders are around 55% higher than the rate for all Queenslanders.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES(a), Indigenous Status(b), Queensland

	2003 - 2005	2004 - 2006	2005 - 2007	2006-2008
Indigenous	10.9	11.1	9.1	7.9
All persons	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.1

(a) Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

(b) Deaths for whom Indigenous status was not stated are excluded. As a result, Indigenous infant mortality rates may be underestimated.

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REGIONAL DATA

In Queensland, local government areas with an estimated resident population of 20,000 or more recorded a wide range of indirect standardised death rates³. Mount Isa (C) recorded the highest rate of 10.6 deaths per 1,000 standard population followed by Whitsunday (R) with 7.5, Rockhampton (R) with 6.9 and Ipswich (C) and Dalby (R) both with 6.8 deaths per 1,000 population. Scenic Rim (R) recorded the lowest rate of 5.1 deaths per 1,000 standard population followed Sunshine Coast (R) with 5.2 and Gympie(R) with 5.4 deaths per 1,000 population. About two-thirds of local government areas with an estimated resident population of 20,000 or more recorded an equal or lower indirect standardised death rate than that of Queensland (6.1). Death rates were based on the average of deaths data for the period 2006 to 2008.

In addition to data for local government areas and statistical divisions, data is also available for statistical local areas. Please refer to Deaths, Australia, 2008 (cat. no. 3302.0) electronic data cubes for further small area data.

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END NOTES

1. The crude death rate (CDR) is the number of deaths registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June. For years prior to 1992, the crude death rate was based on the mean estimated resident population for the calendar year.
2. Age-specific death rates (ASDRs) are the number of deaths registered during the calendar year at a specified age per 1,000 of the estimated resident population of the same age at the mid-point of the year (30 June). Pro rata adjustment is made in respect of deaths for which the age of the deceased is not given.
3. Standardised death rates (SDRs) enable the comparison of death rates between populations with different age structures by relating them to a standard population. The current standard population is all persons in the Australian population at 30 June 2001. SDRs are expressed per 1,000 or 100,000 persons. There are two methods of calculating SDRs:
 - The direct method—this is used when the populations under study are large and the age-specific death rates are reliable. It is the overall death rate that would have prevailed in the standard population if it had experienced at each age the death rates of the population under study.

- The indirect method—this is used when the populations under study are small and the age-specific death rates are unreliable or not known. It is an adjustment to the crude death rate of the standard population to account for the variation between the actual number of deaths in the population under study and the number of deaths which would have occurred if the population under study had experienced the age-specific death rates of the standard population.

4. For more information see [Experimental Life Tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2005–2007](#) (cat. no 3302.0.55.003) released on 25 May 2009 and [Information Paper: Census Data Enhancement—Indigenous Mortality Quality Study, 2006–07](#) (cat. no. 4723.0) and [Discussion Paper: Assessment of Methods for Developing Life Tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006](#) (cat. no. 3302.0.55.002), both released on 17 November 2008.

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Taylor R, Lewis M, Powles J 1998, 'Australian mortality decline: All-cause mortality 1788–1990', in *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 22, No. 1, pp. 27–36.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on this topic can be accessed in the following ABS publications:

[Deaths, Australia, 2008](#) (cat. no. 3302.0)
[Australian Historical Population Statistics, 2008](#) (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001)
[Life Tables, Queensland, 2006-08](#) (cat. no. 3302.3.55.001)
[Experimental Life Tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2005–2007](#)
 (cat. no. 3302.0.55.003)

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